

The Bulletin



CONGREGATION
B'NAI ISRAEL

Congregation B'nai Israel, Elizabeth, NJ - Affiliated 1992

June 2019



ANNUAL MEETING

*Please join the Officers, Trustees, Clergy, and Staff of Congregation B'nai Israel
for our Annual Meeting*

Tuesday, June 11 at 7:30 p.m.

State of the Congregation

Election of Officers and Trustees
Presentation of 2019-20 Budget
Governance Committee Proposals/Constitution Revision
Reports from CBI Staff and President
Committee Reports and Updates

Proposed Slate of Officers and Trustees

2019-2021 (2-year terms)

Executive Committee

Mariela Markelis Dybner – President
Jamey Potechin – 1st Vice President
Henry Bloom – 2nd Vice President
Dan Dovdavyan – 3rd Vice President
Open – Treasurer
Susan Gordon – Secretary

Trustees

Rachel Benjamin	
Greg Daniel	Michelle Neier
Ivy Samuels	Glenn Zarin
Jackie Printz	Ed Hilzenrath

Nominating Committee

Stacy Merkel – Chair
Meryl Hubscher

Ilisa Perlman
Bob Marcus
Dan Kamen

Bob Brauer
Melissa Zarin

June Shabbat Services

Kabbalat Shabbat 8:15 pm
Shabbat Services 9:00 am

Additional Shabbat Programs:

Friday, May 31

8:15 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Services

Saturday, June 2

9:00 am – Shabbat Services Bat Mitzvah of Zoey Blake
12:00 pm – Kiddush

Friday, June 7

8:15 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Saturday, June 8

9:00 am – Shabbat Services and Torah Cover Dedication
12:00 pm – Shabbat Kiddush and Torah Cover Dedication
9:30 pm – Tikkun Leyl Shavuot

Friday, June 14

6:00 pm – Congregational Shabbat Dinner
7:00 pm – Musical Shabbat with CBI Band

Saturday, June 15

9:00 am – Shabbat Services
12:00 pm – Kiddush

Friday, June 21

8:15 pm – Kabbalat Services

Saturday, June 22

9:00 am – Shabbat Services - Bat Mitzvah of Keala Goldberg
12:00 pm – Kiddush

Friday, June 28

5:45 pm – Holy Happy Hour ***only service of the evening***

Saturday, June 29

9:00 am – Shabbat Services
10:45 am – Shabbat Journeymen Minyan
12:00 pm – Shabbat Kiddush

Please check www.cbi-nj.org for any changes to schedule.

Candle Lighting

June 7	8:08 pm
June 14	8:11 pm
June 21	8:13 pm
June 28	8:14 pm

Mincha/Havdallah

June 1	8:16/9:12pm
June 8	8:21/9:16pm
June 15	8:24/9:20pm
June 22	8:26/9:22pm
June 29	8:27/9:22pm

Minyan Rotation

5/27 - 6/2	Kessler – Krauss
6/3 - 6/9	Lakin – Lindauer
6/10 - 6/16	Lipp – McCafferty
6/17 - 6/23	McGarr – Neger
6/24 - 6/30	Nesson – Plump

This is a reminder that you are scheduled on the Minyan Rotation List for this month. **We urge you to make every effort to attend minyan, the times are listed below.**

Morning Minyan

7:10 am Mon. & Thurs.
7:15 am Tues., Wed. & Fri.
8:00 am Sun.

Evening Minyan

8:00 pm Sun.-Thur.

President's Message

By Mariela Markelis Dybner, CBI President



Sunrise, sunset, swiftly flow the years: after thirty introspective and transformational years, Rabbi Bayar is retiring from Congregation B'nai Israel. As we bid farewell to our rabbi of a generation and a half, we reflect on the many ways in which his legacy and leadership live on in the very soul of the CBI community. Early in Rabbi Bayar's tenure, he endorsed and encouraged the move to egalitarian practice; I cannot imagine a more impactful change

in our congregational life. He came down from the bima, setting the reader's table among the pews arranged around it, inviting the entire *kehillah* (congregation) into the liturgy and Torah reading and instituting one of the hallmarks of life at B'nai Israel. His interactive sermons have engaged our minds, pushing us to think for ourselves, rather than simply be consumers of knowledge. Throughout his time at CBI, Rabbi Bayar has made room for congregants to learn, to lead and to flourish both during services and as lay leaders for our community.

During the past few months, congregants have shared with me some of their cherished moments with Rabbi Bayar. Some have regaled me with stories about trips to Israel and service trips to Kentucky; others have been moved by his care during difficult times. His teaching has inspired congregants of all ages, from our young people who enjoyed his classes at BBRS linking Talmudic lessons to Disney movies to adults studying *Pirkei Avot*, contemporary Jewish philosophers, the Jacob narrative and more. As Rabbi Emeritus, Rabbi Bayar's everyday presence will be missed, but his influence will continue to guide us in our Jewish way of life.

Kicking off June in a festive way, CBI will again be marching in the Salute to Israel Parade in New York City on June 2. We will first join at the synagogue for breakfast and poster making and then take the bus into the city together. Please RSVP to the office to reserve your spot on the bus. On Monday evening, June 3, our Sisterhood will be hosting its annual Installation and Dinner to break bread as they install their new board. Thank you to Ruth Kirshner and Laurie Kavowras and their Board for a wonderful year. The CBI preschool will be celebrating the year end and toasting its graduates on June 6 at 10am. Continuing the festive mood, we will be having our first Musical Shabbat and Dinner on Friday, June 14 and a Holy Happy Hour on Friday, June 28.

While our children may insist that June marks the end of learning, for us, June is a time to rejoice in the study of Torah. During Shabbat services on *Erev Shavuot*, June 8, we will inaugurate our beautiful new Torah Covers depicting scenes of Jerusalem followed by a special kiddush to thank all those who participated in this year's fundraiser. Special thanks to Elizabeth Cohen, Heidi Cohen and their committee for stepping up to raise these needed funds for our community. *Erev Shavuot* services will be that evening

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MUSICAL NOTES

By Cantor Lorna Wallach

Every year on the Festival of Shavuot, Jews celebrate the giving of the Torah and we renew our acceptance of this gift from G-d. This June 9th and 10th as we celebrate *Shavuot* at CBI, when we sing “*Vayehee Binsóah Ha’Aron*” and the Ark curtain is opened revealing the magnificent new covers on our *Sifrei Torah*, I am already anticipating the increased joy and excitement that I know I will feel about seeing our Torah scrolls cloaked in such beautiful and symbolically meaningful covers. The captivating artwork, using rich and soothing colors and interesting textures in depicting Jerusalem and other scenes in Israel, is a poignant way to keep our hearts and minds directed towards *Eretz Yisrael*, our Jewish homeland, and our beloved holy city of Jerusalem as our Kehillah (community) joins together to pray and hear the Torah chanted. With the Torah being our most sacred and significant text and sacred object, it is most fitting that our congregation (thanks to the inspiration and hard work of a few congregants who were the catalysts for this project!) can fulfill the Jewish concept of *Hiddur Mitzvah* through this CBI-wide endeavor.

From the Torah we learn of the *Mitzvot* (commandments) which Jews are obligated to perform. *Mitzvot* are a means of expressing our love and connection to G-d and, we are told, we should strive to perform each commandment in the most beautiful fashion. This is the concept of *Hiddur Mitzvah* – we should seek not only to fulfill the basic commandment, but to do it in the most beautiful manner by adding an aesthetic dimension. This concept originates from the verse, “*This is My G-d and I will glorify Him*” (Exodus 15:2) which the Sages interpreted as an exhortation to beautify the commandments in the most glorious fashion.

Beauty enhances the performance of *Mitzvot* by appealing to our senses. There are many different types of artistry that can contribute to our enjoyment and spirituality of engaging in religious acts. The music that is used in worship is also intended to enhance the liturgy and to touch our souls. Our CBI community is blessed to have developed a beautiful, strong and exciting new tradition where on several *Shabbatot* in the spring and summer, we begin our Kabbalat Shabbat services at an earlier time on Friday evening (and finish before sundown!) so that we can enjoy musical accompaniment for the services, provided by our own talented, dedicated and enthusiastic CBI volunteer band. These instrumentally enhanced services have been very well received by many and the *ruach* (spirit) of the service is truly uplifting! This year’s instrumental musical services will be on JUNE 14th at 7:00pm and **JULY 12th at 7:00 pm**. PLEASE NOTE THE EARLIER START TIME and THAT THIS IS THE ONLY SERVICE on the evenings of the instrumental music services. I encourage all of you to make every effort to join us in welcoming Shabbat through a spiritual and spirited Friday night experience. All are welcome to attend so bring your family, friends and neighbors!



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In The Community

Condolences to:

Ellen Farber on the passing of her husband, Lawrence Garber (z”l)

Refuah Shleima to:

Meryl Hubscher, Frieda Ostrowsky, Emanuel Magid, Shirley Ehrich, Roberta Balsam, Beth Giladi, Lenette Talpins, Chaya Cohen, Kopel Burk, Doris Goldman, MaryAnn Velez & to June Fastow for a speedy recovery from surgery.

Mazel Tov to:

Mazal Tov to Matt and Liz Goldberg on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Jesse in Israel on April 13th.

Brett Popolow and Shari Brandt on their daughter, Madeline Danielle Popolow, becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Lucy Eisenstein-Waldman and Mitchell Waldman on their son, Matthew, becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Amy and Jason Blake on their daughter, Zoey, becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Elinor and Todd Goldberg on their daughter, Kaela, becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Beineynu

By Harvey Brenner, Executive Director

If you remember, last year I wrote about how June is a 'bittersweet' month for me (as it's the month my father Arty (z"l) passed away in 2012 and also the time when I get to be grandpa on Father's Day to my now 6½ year old granddaughter, Averi).



Well, this year, it's even more complicated and yes, even more poignant and unsettling!

As I write this article in early May, my son is set to remarry, in just under two weeks. He's getting married to a lovely lady and hopefully beginning their new home together, living "happily ever after".

Unfortunately, her father suffers from C.O.P.D. and after a nearly two-week stay in the hospital for pneumonia, infections, and other breathing-related complications, he has just been given 3-6 months to live! Nobody expected that prognosis, least of all the wedding couple.

The only solution is to receive a lung transplant, and God Willing, he'll be added to the National Registry list this week (after he meets certain criteria and passes a gauntlet of tests).

I can't imagine what my future daughter-in-law's family is experiencing as they prepare for her wedding and perhaps a major health crisis with her father, both at the same time. How on one hand his greatest wish was to walk his youngest daughter down the aisle to meet her groom and now they are discussing "end of life" issues and running all the "what if" scenarios in their heads, "just in case" the worst happens.

Can you imagine marking both the happiest day in your life and potentially one of the saddest, God Forbid, a mere few days or weeks apart? I can't, and every time I see my future daughter-in-law since we heard the news, I want to cry.

Sometimes, life's not fair! But it's at times like these that being a member of a community becomes really important. Sharing both times of euphoric joy and crushing sadness are rendered 'manageable' when spread over the shoulders of our friends and family.

So, for me, that's one of the very positive things about doing the work I do. While I'm not clergy or an educator, and much of the time my duties are not sacerdotal in nature, I do help and enable others to perform those functions for this community. If you have a simcha, or some sort of personal crisis, the work I do helps others to be there for you when you need them to be. It's sort of a 'covenant' among our members, donors, supporters, clergy, educators and staff.

So, in this month when we celebrate Shavuot, (when the Jewish People received "the torah" from HaShem) it is appropriate to remember that everything we do at CBI is inter-connected and we are here to help and support one another. As I noted last month, it is said: *"without Torah there can be no bread and without bread, there can be no Torah."*

If you haven't already done so, please donate to our **Spring Torah Cover Campaign**. Every dollar collected goes to support this community and our members in their time(s) of need, joy, happiness and sorrow.

Wishing you a safe, healthy and happy summer.

Harvey M. Brenner, FSA, FTA



To contact Harvey Brenner,
email him at hbrenner@cbi-nj.org



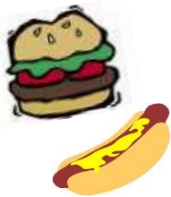
ANNUAL BBQ

FREE

& Open House

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1st

Rain or Shine!



We Will Fire Up the Grills Starting at 5:30 p.m.

*We'll Supply the Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Salads,
Soft Drinks & Watermelon, too! Veggie Option Available!*

Relax!
Bring Your Own Kosher
Wine or Beer!

All Ages Welcome!

Congregants
Friends
Prospective Members

Movie for Kids!
Youth Lounge Open for
Teens!

Please RSVP by July 27th

RSVP Online at www.cbi-nj.org.

Donations to help offset program cost are appreciated, in advance or at door.

Questions? Contact CBI Office at 973-379-3811



To our congregants:

After much deliberation, Rabbi Dario Bialer has decided not to accept our offer of employment as rabbi of Congregation B'nai Israel. Despite our concerted efforts and prolonged negotiations, he cites personal and communal obligations in his current home of Rio de Janeiro as the reasons behind this decision.

Although we are disappointed in this result given the widespread support of Rabbi Bialer from the congregation, we are now ready and able to put into effect our alternate plan, free from any constraints of having extended an offer. We have communicated our intention to select an interim rabbi and then commence a new search for our permanent rabbi to both United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Rabbinical Assembly, which have endorsed this approach. The Rabbi Search Committee will be reconvening imminently to discuss our options for the coming year as well as to consider any lessons learned thus far to improve our search.

Personally, I would like to thank the Rabbi Search Committee and the Negotiating Committee for their hard work and focus on a fantastic process and the entire congregation for their engagement and enthusiasm. I am confident that our ongoing efforts will ultimately result in a new rabbi that will complement and lead our congregation into the future.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mariela Dybner".

Mariela Markelis Dybner
President

CBI SISTERHOOD INSTALLATION



Monday, June 3 at 6:30pm

The evening will include a delicious dinner followed by the installation.

Please join us as we welcome our incoming officers and salute all that have contributed to Sisterhood's success this year!

This evening is free to Sisterhood members. Your guests are invited at a cost of \$10 each.



RSVP to Ruth Novick (ruthkirshner@yahoo.com or 973-454-1868) or Laurie Kavowras (lscaregiver48@gmail.com or 862-763-7705) by May 30th.

BAT MITZVAH



Zoey Blake June 1, 2019

Zoey is a 7th grader at Millburn Middle School. She became part of the CBI community as a student at HGECC and is thrilled to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah here ten years later.

Zoey enjoys many sports, especially softball, and you can often find her in catcher gear behind home plate. She also sings and plays piano with a focus on many kinds of music, especially pop. She spends her summers at Meadowbrook Day Camp and Bethany Beach when she is not on the softball field, and enjoys her free time with her many friends from camp, school and CBI. Zoey lights up her family's life with her singing, dancing, laughter, positive outlook and endless joy.

Zoey's Mitzvah project was inspired by her desire to help other women as she is recognized as a woman in the Jewish community. She has chosen to volunteer with the Rachel Coalition, which is an organization that provides services to victims of domestic violence and their families.

Zoey is happy to be sharing this wonderful simcha with her parents Amy and Jason, and her brother Will. Zoey would like to thank Paula Touger, Cantor Wallach and Rabbi Bayar for guiding her and preparing her, not only for her Bat Mitzvah day, but for all the teaching, support and kindness they have shown her throughout the years.



Musical Kabbalat Shabbat Services

**Join us as we welcome Shabbat,
with uplifting and spiritual
instrumental musical services.**

Friday, June 14 at 7:00 p.m.

With Shabbat Dinner Prior to Service ... Registration Required

Friday, July 12 at 7:00 p.m.

CBI Yom Tov Band & Cantor Lorna Wallach!

FESTIVE ONEG

Ice Cream, Lemonade & Iced Tea, too!

Hedwig Gruenewald Early Childhood Center (HGECC)

By Rochelle Baron, Director

We made it to the end of another successful school year! It seems like yesterday that we were welcoming children and families to HGECC on the first day of school and now here we are in June.

Many wonderful events have taken place over the past ten months in which the children learned many things through play and experiential learning and had lots of fun doing it all. The inception of the 'loose parts classroom' and focus on STEAM curriculum was very well received and continues to be a highlight of the program. We owe special thanks to Shay Seroussi, our visiting rishona from Israel, who shared knowledge of this wonderful country through games, songs and crafts. The children enjoyed the various vendors who came for enrichment mornings and afternoons, and it was always fun to eat lunch with Rabbi Sharon and hear the great stories she would read to us. Shabbat in the CBI sanctuary with Cantor Wallach made Friday mornings very special and we looked



forward to these visits each week. The warm, nurturing HGECC staff were there each day with smiles and challenges for their students to explore as they helped everyone grow and learn. Many thanks to the HGECC Preschool Board, Lauren Berrol, Suzanne Schaefer, Nealy Troll and Kelly Abramowitz, for their support and guidance throughout the year. Big shout outs as well to Alyssa Bressler and Neal Chan, HGECC Parents Association co-chairs, for planning and coordinating wonderful activities for our kids and families.

We wish all of our PreK graduates—Samara Bressler, Berkeley Carota, Charlotte Chan, Nicholas Schuppe, Esme Berrol Soffin, Devin Soska, and Alexis Zenn—and their families all the best in the future as they leave HGECC and move on to new adventures. We will miss you!

Best wishes for a happy and healthy summer!

Rochelle



To contact Rochelle Baron,
email her at HGECC@cbi-nj.org

Blanche Bayar Religious School (BBRS)

By Rabbi Sharon Litwin, Director of Congregational Learning

BBRS HONORS OUR KITAH ZAYIN GRADUATES

Mazal Tov to all of our Kitah Zayin graduates: Zoey Blake, Abby Dranikoff, Jesse Goldberg, Benjamin Klein, Max Levy, Sophie Minocha, Daniel Oshri, Madeline Popolow, Shira Radin, Charlotte Troll, Matthew Waldman, Maxwell Wank



This has been a great year. I am so grateful to the teachers for bringing joyous learning to our students, to our parents for your continued support of the Religious School and our programs, to the school committee for their hard, and to everyone at BBRS for always making my job a pleasure!

As always, if you are interested in free Hebrew tutoring for adults or children during the summer, please contact Rabbi Sharon (slitwin@cbi-nj.org) for an appointment or a series of appointments.

If you are an adult learner and have suggestions or ideas for programming and classes at CBI for our programming year, please be in touch with me, as our Adult Learning committee is meeting throughout the summer to plan an engaging year of learning. Thank you!

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL!

Registration is now underway for the 2019-20 academic year! Please be sure to contact

Susan Kashan in the BBRS office to get the link for online registration.



FREE Kindergarten at BBRS

Open for all children, not just CBI Members

Come learn about the Jewish holidays through music, art, dance, storytelling, and more!



Every Sunday throughout the 2019-20 academic year. The Gan program at BBRS allows your child to explore the Jewish holidays, Hebrew, music and more in a fun and safe environment.

If you or someone you know is interested in receiving more information about our Free Gan program please contact Director Congregational Learning, Rabbi Sharon Litwin.

Rabbi Sharon Litwin



To contact Rabbi Sharon Litwin,
email her at slitwin@cbi-nj.org

Sisterhood's Message

By Laurie Kavowras and Ruth Novick



Laurie Kavowras



Ruth Novick

Two Kickoffs (one talent show and one trivia night). Two Installations. Two Sisterhood Shabbats. Two Women's Seders (Tu B'Shevat and Pesach). Four Bookends. Twenty-one Mah Jongg nights. Seventeen Knit and Knoshes. Two successful Torah Fund campaigns and two successful honey sales. Five Ladies' Nights Out. Five Rosh Chodesh programs. Hundreds of Gift Shop hours. Too many onegs, kiddushes, kippot and bima flowers to count. Not to mention the many b'nai mitzvah gifts, zayin graduation gifts, staff and preschool Chanukah gifts, notes offering good wishes and support, and monetary support to the synagogue. This isn't bragging. This is the last two years of Sisterhood.

As our presidency winds down, we can't help but look back with pride. But we take credit for none of it. Rather, we express our gratitude to the MANY Sisterhood volunteers that made all of this happen.

We start with the amazing women that served on the Sisterhood Board or chaired committees for the last two years: Jane Brauer (Kitchen, 2017-19) Michelle Daniel (Educational Vice President, 2018-19); Amy Dantus (Mah Jongg card sale, 2017-19); Lilli Finkler (Kitchen, 2017-19) Jennifer Glick (Organizational Vice President, 2018-19; Recording Secretary, 2017-18); Susan Gordon (Programming Vice President, 2018-19; Educational Vice President, 2017-18); Lisa Halpern (Honey Sale, 2017-19); Wendy Kaplowitz (Educational Vice President, 2018-19); Debbie Marcus (Kippot); Helene Moehlman (Mah Jongg, 2017-19) Marion Mohl (Ex Officio, 2017-19; Knit and Knosh, 2017-19); Rhee Nesson (Membership Vice President, 2017-19); Sandy Panzer (Torah Fund Vice President, 2017-19); Ilisa Perlman (Gift Shop, 2017-19); Sharon Richman (Organizational Vice President, 2018-19; Educational Vice President, 2017-18); Ivy Samuels (Social Secretary, 2017-19); Susan Shapiro (Torah Fund Vice President, 2017-18); Ellen Shulman (Financial Secretary, 2017-19); Ann Spector (Knit and Knosh, 2017-19) Debbie Toplansky (Recording Secretary, 2017-19); Nancy Sloan (Treasurer, 2017-19); Linda Silver (Torah Fund Vice President, 2018-19); Susan Stern (Programming Vice President, 2017-19); Paula Touger (Flowers, 2017-19); Karen Tucker (Immediate Past President, 2017-19; Kitchen 2017-19); Edie Yaffe (Kickoff); Melissa Zarin (Membership Vice President, 2018-19). Most of these incredible women have been involved with

Sisterhood for well over two years and have served many different roles. Their deep institutional knowledge, creativity and willingness to always pitch in made possible everything that Sisterhood did. If we left anyone off this list, it was due to inadvertence and not lack of appreciation.

Thank you to all of the volunteers – too many to separately acknowledge – who helped make Sisterhood's programs come together. So many people helped in the kitchen or gift shop, put together flyers and programs, participated in set up or clean up, shopped and helped advertise our programs. We are so grateful. We are equally grateful to our clergy, and to our professional, office and maintenance staff. You were always available to help us in ways big and small.

And of course, thank you to everyone that supported Sisterhood by paying dues and coming to events. We hope that we have been able to provide inclusive programs that appeal to you and achieve our common goals of supporting CBI and the women of our congregation.

Sisterhood Installation will take place on Monday, June 3. We will pass the torch to Jennifer Glick and Sharon Richman, Sisterhood's new co-presidents. We are so excited to see what Jennifer and Sharon are planning and are confident that they will put their own unique spin on Sisterhood. Please join us in welcoming them and their board. A delicious catered dinner will be part of the festivities.

Jennifer and Sharon are already busy planning their calendar. Sisterhood and Millburn-Short Hills Tziona Hadassah are co-sponsoring "BDS on Campus: What happened at U of Michigan, A talk by Mark Ingber." This important event will take place at CBI on June 5 at 7:30 p.m. Bookends is also returning on Wednesday, June 19. We will be discussing *Gateway to the Moon* by Mary Morris, which tells the story of Miguel Torres, a descendant of a Jew exiled from Spain who traveled to the New World with Christopher Columbus and settles in Entrada de la Luna, New Mexico. This beautiful novel travels from the fifteenth-century Spain to the present day. New Sisterhood Co-President Jennifer Glick will facilitate the discussion.

It has been our honor and privilege to serve as Sisterhood Co-Presidents. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to do something we were passionate about.

Upcoming Events:

Monday, June 3	Installation
Wednesday, June 12	Mah Jongg
Wednesday, June 19	Bookends
Tuesday, June 25	Knit and Knosh

Laurie Kavowras and Ruth Novick

Shavuot Services at CBI

Celebrate God's Gift of Torah

Saturday, June 8

8:30 p.m – Mincha/Ma'ariv

9:30 p.m. -- Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Sunday, June 9

9:00 a.m -- Shavuot Services

8:00 p.m – Mincha/Ma'ariv

Monday, June 10

9:00 a.m -- Shavuot Services

10:30 a.m -- Yizkor

8:00 p.m – Mincha/Ma'ariv



Tikkun Leil Shavuot / Study Session

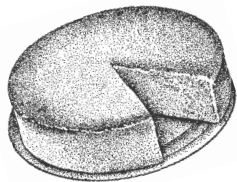
Saturday, June 8 at 9:30 p.m.

This Year's Theme ... *Jerusalem!*

Shavuot is considered to be the anniversary of the Giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. This year we are grateful for our new Torah covers, each one depicting a scene of Jerusalem.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot is the custom of staying up the entire night (*leil*) of Shavuot studying with the community in order to relive the experience of standing at Sinai. Join with fellow congregants for an evening of enlightenment, engagement and enjoyment as we learn together! We won't stay up the entire night, but there will be a wide range of engaging topics, at all learning and interest levels.

No Cost / No RSVP / Just Show Up!



**Dairy Refreshments
will be Served!**

**Did
You
Know?**

Why is Dairy Important?

- ❖ To remind us of the Torah, which is like "honey and milk under your tongue." (Song of Solomon 4:11)
- ❖ The Hebrew word milk, *chalav*, has the numerical value 40, which is also the number of days Moses spent on Mount Sinai receiving the Torah.

Shabbat Soulcial

Dinner. Prayer. Singing. Fun.



Shabbat Dinner &



Musical Shabbat Service

with the CBI Yom Tov Band & Cantor Lorna Wallach

Friday, June 14

Dinner at 6:00 p.m. // Service at 7:00 p.m.

Celebrate Shabbat with Family & Friends!

Chicken Shabbat Dinner with All the Trimmings!

Kid-friendly, vegetarian and gluten-free options...please let us know!

FREE

Thank you to Betsy and Phil Darivoff for supporting this Soulcial Shabbat Dinner.

NO COST...But we need you to register by June 10.

RSVP online at www.cbi-nj.org.

Or, call the synagogue office at 973-379-3811.



160 Millburn Avenue
Millburn, NJ 07041
973-379-3811 www.cbi-nj.org

HOLY HAPPY HOUR

Shabbat
Shalom



HOLY HAPPY HOUR

On the Terrace* at Congregation B'nai Israel
Friday, June 28

Social Hour starts at 6:00 p.m.

Service at 7:00 p.m.

Come relax and unwind as we welcome Shabbat together with light snacks and beer & wine followed by Kabbalat Shabbat.

Fun // Casual // Soulful

All are Welcome!

Come as you are whenever you can!

This will be the only service of the evening.

HAPPY SHABBAT

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Michelle Daniel at michelledaniel@gmail.com.

*In case of inclement weather,
join us in the Motherwell Lobby.

LET'S HAVE DINNER TOGETHER!

This year we are planning monthly Shabbat dinners to bring the CBI Community together and we're looking for additional sponsors.

To become a sponsor:

Contact Harvey Brenner (hbrenner@cbi-nj.org) in the CBI office for more information.

GREAT ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY!

Want to reach our engaged and local congregants?

Contact **Harvey Brenner** at (973) 379-3811, x 118 or hbrenner@cbi-nj.org for more information about advertising in **The Bulletin**.

MEN'S CLUB MINUTE

By Jonathan Schor & Alex Marcus,
Men's Club Co-Presidents

Shalom Y'all,

We hope everyone had a meaningful Omer.

We are always looking for members who are interested in joining the Men's Club board or just have a great idea for an event for the coming year. The CBI Men's Club is always looking for new fun and interesting ways to bring our community together. If you are interested or know someone with ideas let us know at cbimensclubmillburn@gmail.com

Thanks to Jerry Weiss and all the Men's Club pack and distribute team, CBI members had Yellow Candles to light on Yom HaShoah to remember our martyrs al Kiddish Hashem.

(Incidentally, the Yellow Candle program was started by the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs in 1981. For more information see <https://www.fjmc.org/content/yellow-candles-home>) For those who have not yet had the opportunity, you can still donate to further CBI's Holocaust programming and for the Blue Card Fund.



Jonathan Schor



Alex Marcus

Please visit www.tinyurl.com/yellowcandle2019.

Men's Club gave out siddurim to the Gimel Class and in memory of Kal Segal. Mazal Tov to all of our students. We hope you use your siddurim in good health for many years.

A few upcoming events:

1) Israel Day Parade – Join your CBI friends at the Salute to Israel Parade on Sunday June 2nd. Join us for bagel breakfast and poster making in the morning and then we will lead a contingent at the parade. To reserve a place on the bus please visit www.tinyurl.com/israelparade2019

2) Softball – Men's Club Softball is in full swing. Games are fun and for all levels of ability. Please contact Craig Rothman at craig231rothman@gmail.com for more information.

3) CBI Summer BBQ - 8/1 - We are looking for volunteers to help fire up the grills for this important CBI event. Please email us at cbimensclubmillburn@gmail.com if you are able to lend a hand.

Jonathan Schor & Alex Marcus

President's Message

continued from page 2

at 8:30 pm, and our *Tikkun Leyl Shavuot* learning sessions will commence at 9:30 pm and continue late into the night, with the added sustenance of cheesecake.

Please join us for the Congregational Annual Meeting on June 11 at 7:30 pm. We will be discussing the state of the synagogue as well as installing our officers and trustees. Note that you should have received a mailed notice of a proposed amendment to our CBI Constitution regarding Board size and composition. Please take the time to review the proposal, which will be voted on at the Annual Meeting. I hope to see many of you there.

As we near the end of the Omer and our own moment of congregation change, I leave you with the words of Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, Chief Rabbi of Great Britain, "Time is not a series of moments traced on the face of a watch, always moving yet always the same. Instead, it is a journey with a starting point and a destination, or a story with a beginning, middle and end. Each moment has a meaning, which can only be grasped if we understand where we have come from and where we are going to. This is time not as it is in nature but as it is in history."

B'shalom,

Mariela Markelis Dybner



To contact Mariela Dybner,
email her at president@cbi-nj.org

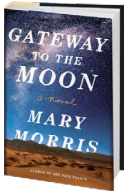


**BDS on Campus:
The Inside Story**

When his daughter's professor refused to write a letter of recommendation to Tel Aviv University, Mark Ingber took action to **STAND UP FOR ISRAEL!**
Hear Mark Ingber tell the real story behind the news.

Wednesday, June 5, 7:30 p.m. at CBI
Sponsored by CBI Sisterhood and Millburn/Short Hills Hadassah

**PLAN TO JOIN US
FOR CBI SISTERHOOD'S SPRING BOOKENDS MEETING
TO BE FACILITATED BY JENNIFER GLICK
ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 19TH
AS WE DISCUSS
GATEWAY TO THE MOON
BY MARY MORRIS**



In 1492 facing expulsion from Spain, Luis de Torres, a Spanish Jew, joined Columbus on his voyage as his interpreter. De Torres' descendants eventually settled in Entrada de la Luna in the hills of New Mexico. Five hundred years later, Miguel Torres, a young amateur astronomer, finds himself trying to understand the mystery that surrounds the town he grew up in. After taking a job with a Jewish family new to the area, Miguel is surprised to find many of their customs similar to ones he's grown up with and never understood.

This novel interweaves a contemporary story with those of the ancestors of Entrada's residents. Gateway to the Moon presents a touching and unforgettable picture of a family and its journey through centuries of Jewish history.

Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2019
Time: 7:30
A Parve Dessert will be served
RSVP & Questions: Susan Stern at Hazelstorm1016@aol.com or 973-415-9547
Sponsored by CBI Sisterhood

**June 2019
Yahrzeit Donors**

Lenore May	Terry Hofflich
Neil Yaris	Deena Bernhaut
Sally Shotkin	Barbara Wolfe-Smolin
Lisa Jacobs	Geraldine Kandall
Sofiya Fornaro	Shirley Ehrich
Debbie Arons	Laune Landau
Rosalie Farber	Lisa Goldberg
Sheila Marx	Barbara Meisler
Rosemary Merrill	Larry Gordon
Liz Koman	Sandra Sabin
Sheryl Horowitz	Barbara Gelb
Edward Maleh	Nancy Weinstein
Hedda Maleh	Morecai Podhoretz
Shari Gorman	Sandra Nash



Calling All Knitters, Crocheters or Wannabees

Please join us for the
Sisterhood Knit & Knosh (and needlecraft) Group

2018-19 Schedule
Tuesday Evenings at 7:30 p.m. in Youth Lounge

June 25

Bring your own supplies. Any kind of needlecraft is great.
Want to learn - we'll have yarn. You bring needles.
Work on your project or stitch for a cause.
An opportunity to share patterns and provide support

RSVP: Marion Mohl marionmohl@aol.com 908-273-8157
Ann Spector annspector@msn.com 973-868-0329

Want to learn, are experienced, or just want to schmooze, come to our monthly informal gathering. Light refreshments.





Adult Forum "Lunch & Learn"
 Congregation B'nai Israel
 160 Millburn Avenue, Millburn, NJ 07041
 Our programs are open to all- bring friends!



JUNE EVENTS

Lunch begins at 12:30 p.m. The program begins at 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 6, at CBI: Join us to **screen the documentary *An Unknown Country***. It tells the story of European Jews who escaped Nazi persecution to find refuge in an unlikely destination: Ecuador, a South American republic barely known at the time. Featuring first-hand accounts and archival material, the film follows the exiles' perilous escape and difficult adjustment as they remade their lives in what was for them an exotic, unfamiliar land. The film's writer and director, Eva Zelig, will join us to discuss this little-known story of the Jews who were saved and what became of them in the *Unknown Country*.

Thursday, June 20 at CBI: Celebrate summer with Hirschhorn entertainer **Dan Yates**. He will delight us with familiar melodies that will have you humming along. Come for an afternoon of toe tapping fun that includes anecdotes and humor with a mix of American Songbook classics, operetta, opera.

Sandwich choices are: Turkey, Corned Beef, Roast Beef, Pastrami, Tuna Fish, or Egg Salad. **YOU MAY PAY AT THE DOOR. CONTACT LOIS at 973-533-1809 to place your lunch order by the Wednesday afternoon preceding the program.** The cost is \$10 for Adult Forum members & partners and \$12 for non-members. If you are coming for the program only, there is no charge, but please call to let me know that you will be attending.

Musical Notes

continued from page 3

One additional thought I'd like to share as this school year and Jewish year comes to an end. While the concept of *Hiddur Mitzvah* usually focuses on the aesthetics of the objects we use to enhance our experience of doing *Mitzvot*, sometimes there are people who also enrich our Jewish lives by bringing deeper meaning and understanding of our sacred texts, liturgy, Jewish ethics and values and engaging us in Tikkun Olam and other mitzvot. I have had the privilege of having Rabbi Bayar as a colleague for the past 21 years. I, like so many others over the past 30 years at CBI, have learned a great deal from Rabbi Bayar, and I am grateful for his support and comfort at both joyous occasions in my family's life as well as in difficult times of illness and loss. I wish Rabbi Bayar much fulfillment and success in all of his future endeavors.

I hope to continue to build on the foundation of his leadership as all of us in the CBI community move forward. Rabbi Bayar

has often quoted Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzatto (1707- 1746) also known by the Hebrew acronym *RaMHaL*, (רמח"ל), who was a prominent 18th century Italian Jewish Rabbi, Kabbalist, and philosopher. The following quote of Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzatto seems particularly relevant at this time. *"Everything in life serves as a challenge and test to elevate us. Therefore, it is right to be grateful for the opportunity to learn and grow through tackling this real-life experience."*

And as our journey continues, I hope that we will all approach the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead of us as occasions to learn and to grow. CBI is a wonderful community and when we join together, there is no limit to what we can accomplish. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if there is anything I can help you with or you'd like to discuss with me.

I wish you all a healthful, restful and peaceful summer.

Lorna Wallach



To contact Cantor Wallach,
 email her at cbicantor@cbi-nj.org

ISRAEL AFFAIRS

By Joe Tenenbaum



2020 AIPAC Policy Conference March 1-3, 2020

Next year's Policy Conference will be held Sunday March 1 – March 3, and once again there will be a Shabbaton the weekend before. The conference will be held the week before Purim, so well ahead of the spring holidays. Next year's conference is in an election year, and AIPAC has usually invited Presidential candidates to address the Conference during election years. So, this conference may be even more historic than usual. Talk to your fellow congregants who attended this year and decide to come with them next year.

I have in mind three subjects to discuss concerning the United States and Israel. The three issues I am thinking about are:

- 1) About our trip to Israel, from Pesach to Yom Ha'atzmaut
- 2) How to discuss volatile issues with people who disagree with you
- 3) The recent Israeli attempt to land a spacecraft on the moon.

Visiting Israel News

April, May 2019

When I travel and have something scheduled I like to prepare for it the night before. Thus, the night before I started my Ulpan sessions, I checked to make sure I had enough coins to be able to pay quickly for my bus ride from our neighborhood to the Ulpan, which is next door to the Dan Panorama in Tel Aviv. It turns out planning is good, because my Tel Aviv family saw what I was doing and commented, "Oh, you can't use coins on the bus anymore." I was surprised but pleased that at least I found out about it before I was standing on the bus with the driver speaking rapidly to me in Hebrew and confusing me completely.

So, for all of you who may be travelling in Tel Aviv soon – the use of coins and paper money to pay bus fare has now been replaced by an electronic card called a *Rav-Kav*. This card must be purchased ahead of time for 5 shekels, and then pre-loaded with credits. I paid 100 shekels and got credit for 125 shekels to purchase fares. With my trip half over, and my class within a couple of days of completion, I still have over 75 shekels left. Oh, the places we can go!!

Biggest difference between this trip in April/May and last year's July/August? The first 10 days had high temperatures mostly below 70 degrees. And after that, we have only reached mid 80's. It's interesting when the morning temperature is about 60 degrees, that I am in short sleeves and people I pass

are wearing heavy coats.

The timing of this trip was designed to include Pesach in Israel (which we had done before), but also Yom HaShoah, Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut. When you next see me, if you have not already, be sure to ask me about our special holidays in Israel.

You can also ask me to relate some of my Shufersal (grocery store) stories. We had some interesting experiences. By special request, I may tell you these special stories in Hebrew, as telling stories in Hebrew has been a major part of my second experience at Ulpan Or.

Can't we just get along?

About a book by Arthur Brooks

One interesting presentation at AIPAC was given by Arthur Brooks, the President of American Enterprise Institute. He was explaining to a plenary session (all the delegates) the major theme of his new book, *Love Your Enemies: How Decent People Can Save America from the Culture of Contempt*. Basically, the book proposes that when we are faced with disagreements about what to do, we should at least find agreement on the values we are trying to advance. Never answer contempt with contempt, but with warm heartedness and love. We hope that in our community, we never display contempt. But it is worth trying to realize that people who disagree with us are neither stupid nor evil; they simply disagree with what we believe.

It was an interesting challenge to try to improve the caliber of political discussions in this time of contention, and I have been looking for an opportunity to try it out. (While I continue working on finishing Brooks' book).

What about failure – is it the road to success?

The Israel Space Program

Now remember I wanted to comment on the SpaceIL and IAI (Israel Aerospace Industries) attempt to successfully send a spacecraft to the moon. The attempt successfully orbited the moon, successfully approached the moon, but failed to land on the moon. As Opher Doron, the General Manager of IAI commented, "We had a failure in the spacecraft; we unfortunately have not managed to land successfully." Following the disappointing failure, Prime Minister Netanyahu stated, "If at first you don't succeed, you try again."

You can be sure that when SpaceIL and IAI try again, they will not send the same spacecraft as before with hopes that this time it will land successfully. They will analyze the recent failure and make adjustments to assure success next time.

Current Events at the end of April Comments on important events

The last weekend of April including Shabbat and the final day of Pesach in the US was noteworthy for two bad reasons. Not only did we discover a dehumanizing anti-Semitic cartoon in the International New York Times, but we experienced another shocking and violent assault on our Jewish community. Despite whatever comes our way it is critical that we stand up for ourselves. One lesson from the attack in Poway is that strong reactions to the gunmen by people in the building prevented more harm. As unfortunate as it sounds, the people there had learned about how to respond from the events six months earlier in Pittsburgh. And while the severity of the insulting cartoon in the International NY Times is less than the loss of a life, we must respond aggressively to let the world know that insults of this kind are not acceptable.

Celebrate Israel Parade on June 2 in NYC

And don't forget to attend the Celebrate Israel Parade in New York City on June 2.

Missing Soldiers and non-combatants

We must continue to pray for the remaining soldiers to return home:

Guy Hever Yehuda Katz Zvi Feldman

There are also two non-combatant Israelis being held by Hamas in Gaza:

Avera Mangistu Hisham al Sayed

Joe Tenenbaum



To contact Joe Tenenbaum,
email him at TenenbaumJ@AOL.com



JNF Breakfast At Westminster Hotel, on Friday May 10: Cantor Lorna Wallach, Sharon Richman & husband, Dan Richter & Simon, Dan Ramer, David Ehrlich, Bob Brauer, Brett Cohen, Amy Dantus

DONATIONS

If you wish to send a tribute please call the main office at 973-379-3811 ext.111 or email: dcoscia@cbi-nj.org.

Synagogue Fund

Nan Greenwald - With warm memories of a loving father, adjoining backyards & a shared Glenwood bus stop

❖ Michele Sherrill

Holly Blum & family - We were sorry to hear of your mother's passing. Our deep sympathies are with you & your family

❖ The Silver Family

Renee Burk - IMO your brother in law

❖ Susan Nimaroff

Nan Greenwald - IMO Howard Greenwald

❖ CBI Legacy Circle

Ellen Garber - We remember Larry so fondly. May his memory be a blessing to you & your family

❖ Nancy & Joe Tenenbaum

Holly Blum - IMO your mother

❖ Lilly & Steve Finkler

Ellen Garber - IMO your husband Larry

❖ Lilly & Steve Finkler

Ellen Garber - May his name be remembered for a blessing

❖ Henry Bloom & Helaine Ettinger

Ellen Garber - May his name be remembered for a blessing. Hugs & Prayers. Love The Dantus Family

❖ Amy & Larry Dantus

Laney Fallek - IMO your mother

❖ Amy & Larry Dantus

Ellen Garber - IMO your husband Larry

❖ Elizabeth & Allan Rauch

Akiba Lubow - Happy Birthday!

❖ Steven & Lillian Finkler

Rabbi's Fund

Ellen Garber - IMO Larry

❖ Susan Schott

Lainey & Andy Fallek - In memory of mother, Helen Friedman

Cantor's Music Fund

Ellen Garber - Our deepest condolences & prayers that you find comfort to ease the pain of this loss in the deep well of memories & wonderful times you shared with Larry

❖ Elizabeth & Gerald Cohen

The Garber Family - IMO Lawrence Garber

❖ Amy & Marc Rosenberg

Ellen Garber - Sending you our deepest sympathies at this sad time

❖ Diana Bensoul

Alex & Debbie Marcus - Mazel Tov on your being honored at the Annual Chabad Gala

❖ Karen Tucker

Phyllis S. Magid Adult Forum Fund

Ellen Garber - So sorry to learn of Larry's passing. We didn't know you that well, but do remember getting together with Al, Natalie, Harriet, & Sheldon for brunch in NYC. Also, I'll never forget how you helped me set up lights outside CBI before the concert I did with Joseph years & years ago.

❖ Rena & Richard Panush

Hedwig Gruenewald Early Childhood Center Fund

Ellen Garber - So, so, sorry Ellen. Sending my love & hugs, can't make it to Shiva as Evan needs fulltime care. We'll miss Larry.

❖ Risa & Evan Wasserman



Harriet F. Klein, J.S.C. (Ret.)

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Congregation B'nai Israel is a center of Jewish life where we come together in a warm and welcoming environment.

We are...

- Rooted in Conservative traditional Jewish values, Torah, our connections to each other, our community, spirituality and Israel • Committed to creating a place where everyone feels comfortable and engaged, and is encouraged to participate • An inclusive, family-friendly, multi-generational, egalitarian congregation that pursues lifelong fulfillment through education, observance and social action • Present and supportive of one another whether celebrating life's joys or sharing its sorrows • Distinguished by passionate professional and lay leadership.

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